

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-03

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DRAFTED BY AF/S-RJDOLS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 243446

LUSAKA FOR EASUM

FOLLOWING REPEAT IAEA VIENNA 9228 ACTION SECSTATE INFR ACE

PRETORIA CAPETOWN DATED 31 OCT 74

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 9228

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM IAEA SF

SUBJECT: IAEA DG EKLUND TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA; SAG

CONSIDERATION OF NPT

1. EKLUND REPORTED TO ME ON OCT 25 IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM SOUTH AFRICA STATE VISIT ON HIGHLIGHTS. HE SAID HE HAD MET SEPARATELY WITH THE PRIMIN, FONMIN, ROUX, CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD, AND SEC GEN FOURIE OF THE FONOFF. EKLUND FELT FOURIE AND ROUX WERE THE TWO KEY MEN IN SOUTH AFRICAN POLICY DELIBERATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE NPT.

2. EKLUND FELT THERE HAD BEEN AN IMPORTANT SWITCH IN SAG ATTITUDE WITH RESPECT TO THE NPT AT LEAST AS CONTRASTED WITH HIS IMPRESSIONS ON A VISIT SEVERAL YEARS  
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AGO. FOURIE AND ROUX REPORTED THAT THEY WERE GIVING

THE MATTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND WOULD MAKE THEIR FIRM RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNMENT IN NOVEMBER. THE PRIMIN HAD SAID (AND EKLUND CONSULTED HIS NOTES) THAT "WE WILL CONSIDER THE NPT WITH A POSITIVE ATTITUDE." EKLUND SAID THAT FOUR YEARS AGO THE PRIMIN HAD BEEN ALMOST CONTEMPTUOUS OF THE NPT WHEN THEY DISCUSSED THE MATTER. THE PRIMIN SAID THAT A DECISION WOULD BE TAKEN BY THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR.

3. ON THE QUESTION OF SAG ADHERENCE TO THE EXPORTERS GROUP MEMORANDA (ZANGGER COMMITTEE) ROUX SAID HE WOULD MAKE THE DECISION AT THE SAME TIME; HIS RECENT ILLNESS HAD MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO PROPERLY FOCUS HIS ATTENTION ON THE MATTER. EKLUND SAID ROUX HAD NOT FULLY INFORMED HIMSELF ON THE ZANGGER COMMITTEE ISSUES AND EKLUND FELT THAT HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO CLEAR UP SOME TO ROUX'S MISCONCEPTIONS. ROUX PROMISED THAT HE WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SOUTH AFRICAN ADHERENCE.

4. ROUX RAISED THE SUBJECT OF SAFEGUARDS ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN ENRICHMENT PROCESS AS ONE OF THE BASIC ISSUES WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF NPT RATIFICATION. HE SAID SAG MUST HAVE ASSURANCE THAT ITS INDUSTRIAL SECRETS WOULD NOT BE COMPROMISED BY EXPOSURE TO INTERNATIONAL INSPECTION. EKLUND ASSURED HIM THAT THE PROBLEM WAS COMMON TO OTHER ENRICHMENT PROCESSES AND INSTALLATIONS AND THAT HE WAS SURE WAYS AND MEANS COULD BE FOUND TO PRESERVE INDUSTRIAL SECRECY. I REMINDED EKLUND THAT THE US ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS HAD ALLUDED TO THIS PROBLEM IN CORRESPONDENCE AND CONVERSATIONS WITH ROUX AND HAD OFFERED TO BE HELPFUL. UP TO THE PRESENT ROUX HAD NOT ELECTED TO RESPOND.

5. EKLUND VISITED ENRICHMENT SITE. ALTHOUGH SOUTH AFRICANS WERE CAREFUL TO KEEP HIM AT ARMS LENGTH FROM ANY VIEW OF THEIR TECHNOLOGY, HE HAD AN EXTENSIVE TOUR OF THE AREA. HE WAS DEEPLY IMPRESSED WITH THE RESOURCES AND EFFORT WHICH THE SAG WAS POURING IN. EKLUND HAD NO QUESTION OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF INTENT OF SOUTH AFRICA TO MOVE AHEAD IN THE ENRICHMENT FIELD. HE SAID NEXT TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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US ENRICHMENT FACILITIES AT OAK RIDGE, THIS WAS THE MOST IMPRESSIVE EFFORT HE HAD YET SEEN IN A SINGLE ATOMIC INSTALLATION. HE REPORTED THAT SAG HAD COMMENCED NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FRG AND "ONE OTHER COUNTRY" WITH REGARD TO BUILDING A FULL-SCALE PLANT UNDER A PARTNER-SHIP VENTURE (THE PILOT PLANT WOULD BE FINISHED BY JUNE 1975). TEAMS FROM THE TWO POTENTIAL CONTRACTING COMPANIES WERE ALREADY ON SITE AND THEY WOULD MAKE THEIR

REPORTS IN NOVEMBER FOR SAG CONSIDERATION IN CONTRACTING  
FOR THE COMMERCIAL SIZE PLANT. SAG OFFICIALS TOLD HIM  
THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOUTH AFRICA TO BUILD  
A PLANT OF THIS MAGNITUDE FROM ITS OWN RESOURCES. PORTER  
UNQUOTE  
INGERSOLL

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